

AN ALBINO PACIFIC TREE FROG, *Hyla regilla*,  
FROM DEATH VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

On 25 March, 1967, a partially albino ♀ *H. regilla* (snout-vent, 35.0 mm) was collected at Saratoga Springs, Death Valley National Monument, San Bernardino Co., California. Except for color, the frog appeared normal. Her behavior at capture was normal and her ovaries contained well developed, pigmented eggs. Four lung-worms (*Rhabdias ranae* Walton) were found, but there was no evidence of pathological damage. No other abnormally colored frogs have been found in over a year of collecting from this population. The specimen (A-540) is on deposit in the Biology Museum, University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The frog's dorsal coloration is broken by extensive non-pigmented areas, but her eyes appear to be of normal color. The pigmented skin appears to be lighter than normal for the population. Four melanophore counts taken on a 5 x 3 mm section of pigmented skin from near the front leg of the albino and a normal ♀ *H. regilla* bear this out  $X \text{ normal} = 4375/\text{mm}^2$ ,  $X \text{ albino} = 3525/\text{mm}^2$ ,  $P < .001$ ). The normal pattern, although interrupted, is evident on the pigmented areas of the albino.

To my knowledge, only one other case of albinism has been reported for *Hyla regilla*. Jameson and Myers (*Herpetologica*, 13:74, 1949) reported an albino *H. regilla* from Oregon that developed from non-pigmented eggs. Hensley (*Publ. Mus. Michigan State Univ. Biol. Ser.*, 1: 135-59, 1959) reiterated the Oregon record, but did not report any other instances. I have found no other reports of albinism in *H. regilla* since 1959. However, Wright and Wright (*Handbook of frogs and toads of the U.S. and Canada*, Comstock Publ. Co., New York, 1949) reported collecting a *Hyla regilla* in Las Vegas, Nevada, in 1925, that was ". . . very yellow with very indistinct pattern." [sic]. Although the authors made no comment, the frog may have been an albino. In several hundred tree frogs from the Las Vegas area, I have not seen a yellow one. Greenish-gray is a common color, but the pattern is always distinct.

I wish to thank Dr. James E. Deacon for reviewing the manuscript and Dr. Bert B. Babero for identification of the parasites. This study has been supported in part by U. S. National Park Service contract no. 14-10-0434-0989 to Dr. James E. Deacon. Fenton R. Kay, Department of Biological Sciences, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, 89109.